



**Taking aim at ATFP**  
Sailors train on force protection measures. See story on page A-2.



**MWR turns up heat**  
Salsa dancing classes available at Bloch Arena. See story on page B-1.

## "Golden Eagles" Deploy



U.S. Navy Photo by JO1 Daniel J. Calderon  
Cmdr. Rod Urbano, commanding officer of Patrol Squadron 9 based at Marine Corps Air Station Base Hawai'i Kaneohe Bay, hugs two of his children before he boards a P-3. VP-9 deployed to the Fifth Fleet area of responsibility Thursday.

**LT. Steven Platt**  
VP-9 Public Affairs

Patrol Squadron 9, part of Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing, stationed at Marine Corps Base Hawai'i, departed Thursday for its third six-month deployment since 2001 to support the global war on terrorism.

More than 400 personnel in VP-9 support and fly the P-3C Orion aircraft. The P-3C is a maritime patrol and reconnaissance aircraft with a tactical aircrew of 11 that supports surface ships and ground troops.

By simultaneously supporting operations in multiple theaters, VP-9's will cover more than 60 million square miles.

VP-9's aircraft have the latest in aviation technology, the Aircraft Improvement Program (AIP).

The upgrades allow crews to conduct long-range surveillance while collecting precise tactical information.

Once collected, information and images will be transmitted to battlefield commanders real time via satellite communications.

If necessary, crews can quickly re-

▼ See GOLDEN, A-6

## Memorial Day observed on Ford Island



U.S. Navy Photo by JOC Joseph Kane

Coast Guard Seaman Shane E. Stone (left) of USCGC Kukui (WLB 203) homeported at Sand Island, HI and Pearl Harbor Based Sailors GSMFN Jeffrey Vallario (center) of USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) and YNSN (SS) Gabriel Gonzales (right) of USS Greeneville (SSN 772) prepare to raise the flag to half-mast over the USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island in honor of Memorial Day, May 31.

## SDVT-1 raises flag at new compound



U.S. Navy Photo

A color guard assigned to SEAL Delivery Vehicle (SDV) Team One raises the American flag during a May 27 ceremony to mark the opening of the new Naval Special Warfare Compound, Pearl City Peninsula, Hawai'i.

**JOC(SW) Robert Benson**  
NSWG-3 PAO

ASDS building.

SEAL Delivery Vehicle (SDV) Team One held a flag raising ceremony May 27, officially designating the new 22-acre Pearl City, Hawai'i compound open for business. Construction for the facility was finished in February at a cost of \$47 million.

Hawai'i's United States Senator Daniel Akaka spoke at the event, along with retired Chief Warrant Officer Patrick Broderick. Also in attendance were command members and the Parks' family, who were recognized for the accomplishments of Maste Chief Boatswain's Mate (SEAL) James "Gator" Parks. The late SEAL provided guidance and operational expertise to Naval Special Warfare undersea mobility programs for more than 30 years. He is considered the pioneer of swimmer delivery technologies.

At the end of the ceremony, three historical markers were unveiled. They commemorate the accomplishments of Parks, honor five Sailors who died aboard USS Grayback in a naval special warfare accident and tell the story of Lt. Philip "Moki" Martin, who was honored in 2001 during the dedication of the SDV Team One

"It gives me great pleasure to be here today," said Akaka. "I was in Saipan and Tinian during World War II and I likely benefited from the courageous success of the first underwater demolition teams. As I read and learned more about SDVT-1's history, I am increasingly impressed by the way this unit has transformed to effectively meet changing threats as our nation is engaged in different conflicts."

The SDVT-1 compound, a state of the art 140,000 square foot waterfront complex, is home to the advanced SEAL delivery system (ASDS), a 65-foot, combatant submersible developed for clandestine insertion and extraction of special operations forces. They also house five MK8 Mod 1 SEAL delivery vehicles, three dry deck shelters, and the merchant vessel "C-Commando." The command is made up of 230 enlisted and 45 officers, comprised primarily of SEALs, divers and submarine and surface fleet technicians. SDVT-1's mission is to conduct undersea special operations and other special operations to meet the requirement of the Pacific Command and the Central Command regional commanders in war, crisis and peace.

## Bonhomme Richard saves Hawai'i military more than \$47K

**JOSN Ryan Valverde**

USS Bonhomme Richard Public Affairs

Thirty POV's and three privately owned boats will be offloaded in Pearl Harbor after an opportune lift, or OPLIFT, mission.

Some Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen in Hawai'i will be receiving their privately owned vehicles (POV's) this week as USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) conducts a scheduled port visit here.

"Some of the cars have been in San Diego for eight months and one boat has been there about a year," said Gunnery Sgt. Orville McIlvanie, senior combat cargo assistant aboard Bonhomme Richard.

The Navy's opportune lift program gives service members the option to ship a boat or a second vehicle overseas at no cost aboard a Navy ship when the vessel's schedule and load-out permit.

"Bonhomme Richard has always had a



U.S. Navy Photo by JOC Joseph Kane

A Sailor drives his POV on to USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) Thursday as part of an OPLIFT mission.

'can do' attitude towards any task and we are ready to help out all we can," said Capt. Jon Berg-Johnsen, USS Bonhomme Richard commanding officer.

It is estimated that Bonhomme Richard saved the service members more than \$47,000 dollars by transporting their POV's to Hawai'i, said Cmdr. John Arbter, USS Bonhomme Richard's executive officer. The Revolutionary Gator is

also scheduled to bring more than 150 POV's from Hawai'i back to San Diego saving service members more than half a million dollars, said Arbter.

"We actively pursued the chance to take part in the OPLIFT program," said Arbter. "Transporting equipment is our business. Anytime we get the chance we will take it. OPLIFT is a win-win situation for everybody," he said.

USS Bonhomme Richard arrived in Pearl Harbor May 30 for a scheduled port visit. The amphibious assault ship conducted Tailored Ship Training Assessment drills during the transit and will conduct more on its return leg to San Diego.

Bonhomme Richard is currently in its training cycle preparing for its scheduled upcoming deployment later this year.

For related news, visit the USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) Navy News-stand page at [www.news.navy.mil/local/lhd6](http://www.news.navy.mil/local/lhd6)

# ATGMIDPAC teaches anti-terror tactics



DCCS(SW) Eric Duckworth and BMC(SW) Douglas Phillips, Afloat Training Group, Middle Pacific, simulate a waverunner terrorist attack during an anti-terrorism exercise held off Ford Island on Pearl Harbor.



BMC(SW) Douglas Phillips, Afloat Training Group, Middle Pacific, provides cover during a simulated swimmer attack exercise. The swimmers placed explosives on USCG Yocona and covertly overtook the vessel during an anti-terrorism exercise held off Ford Island on Pearl Harbor.

## Training group holds force protection exercises to 'simulate real situations' with Navy ships, Navy subs, Coast Guard ships on Ford Island



Photos and story by  
**JOSN Ryan C. McGinley**  
*Staff Writer*

Afloat Training Group, Middle Pacific conducted an anti-terrorism force protection exercise on Ford Island May 28, helping Pearl Harbor ships, submarines and deployable Coast Guard ships qualify for deployments in terrorism-related scenarios.

"Ships need to certify to defend themselves in anti-terrorism and force protection techniques," said Chief Boatswain's Mate (SW) Douglas Phillips, division officer for specialized tactical training.

ATGMIDPAC puts the ships through a three-period training evolution that incorporates known and unknown threats the ship might encounter while on deployment.

Period one teaches basic waterside defense, which includes takedowns and crowd control for ships and submarines.

The second period teaches defense against hands-on swimmer and small boat attacks, suicide bombers and ve-

hicle bombs.

"We want to come up with the best possible scenario that the ships face," said Signalman 1st Class (SW) Lee McIntire, ATG trainer.

The swimmer attack exercise is different than those used by other ATG commands in the Navy.

"We're the only ATG training command in the Navy that puts live swimmers in the water," said Phillips.

The team simulates placing Czechoslovakian and Russian Limpet explosives on the vessel and boarding the ship from the water using a small ladder so they can covertly take control of the ship.

ATGMIDPAC expects the Sailors aboard the ships and submarines to recognize diversions and possible threats and take appropriate measures to fend off enemies.

"We are throwing everything we can possibly think of outside the box at the ships," said BMC (SW) Dennis Lauser. "Our overall goal is to give them a look of what the bad guys would think."

The team also does exercises with small boats in which they simulate for-

eign fishing boats coming too close to the ship.

The role-playing exercise includes verbal confrontations as well as shoulder and blocking techniques, using seven-meter rigid hull inflatable boat.

Lauser describes the most important technique a ship or submarine can learn is to do away with tunnel vision.

He said often times a distraction will give way to the real threat, and Sailors must be aware of all that is around them.

"A better look for them makes them aware of the situation and [that] anything is possible," said Lauser.

Another tool ATGMIDPAC uses is the wave runner. Going 80 mph, the wave runner provides a difficult challenge for the ships because of its maneuverability and speed.

In all exercises in period two, members of ATGMIDPAC help Sailors learn to recognize danger and show them how to prevent it.

When they get to period three in the exercise, ATGMIDPAC lets the ship or submarine operate on its own without advice or help, hoping they learn and grow from the experience and training.

All of the training conducted by ATGMIDPAC is done during the night to simulate real situations as

much as possible.

"No terrorist that would be trained in these techniques is going to try and do it during the daytime," said Phillips. "They're going to come under cover of darkness. So we want to try and emulate that as close as possible."

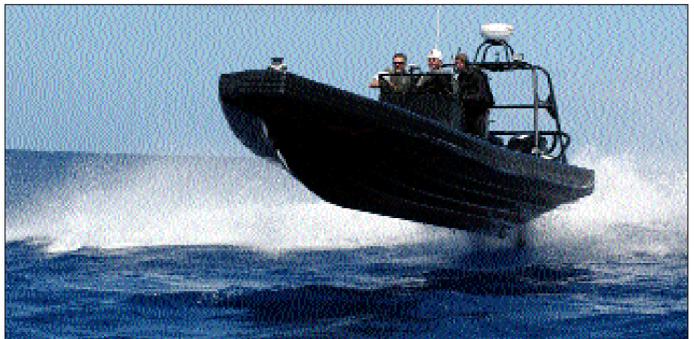
ATGMIDPAC has also received requests from civilian police and other agencies on the island to help in preventing attacks.

The command has stepped up efforts and training sessions after the incident with the guided missile destroyer USS Cole (DDG 67) and the 9-11 attacks to help train Sailors for any possible situation.

"It's very important because of the status of the world right now," said Lauser. "Force protection is really a big factor. ATG is helping the fleet out there to have a first look at the real thing."

Sailors at the command say they recognize the need to conduct these training exercises to help save the lives of fellow Sailors.

"It's a lot of hard work and a lot of long nights, but it's definitely well worth it if we can prevent a boat from running into one of our ships," said McIntire. "It may be a life that's going to be saved."



QM1(SW) Tony Sasser, Afloat Training Group, Middle Pacific, simulates a nine-meter RHIB terrorist attack during an anti-terrorism exercise held off Ford Island on Pearl Harbor.



Boatswain's Mate Chief (SW) Dennis Lauser and QM1(SW) Tony Sasser, Afloat Training Group, Middle Pacific, simulate a small boat terrorist attack during an anti-terrorism exercise. The simulated terrorists demonstrated making high speed advances with fake weapons toward a ship. The exercises are part of an ongoing qualification process to prepare Pearl Harbor ships for deployments.

# Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

## Team is not a 4-letter word

Commentary  
 JO1 Daniel J. Calderón  
 News Editor



All right, so it really is, but it's not that kind of four-letter word. Team is the kind of word that's bandied about so freely that it's become almost cliched and that's a sad thing. In the military, we talk all about how we're supposed to be on the same team. We talk about how being one unit is so important. We train on ships how to function as a single entity. However, it seems the same dedication is lacking in our shore facilities. It seems to me that being assigned to a shore command doesn't engender the same feelings of esprit de corps that being aboard a ship does. Office mates doesn't have the same power as the term shipmates. Why? Although we're not at sea, aren't we all still part of the same larger Navy team? Although

we're not forward deployed, aren't we all still pulling for the same goals? Maybe not. I know when I was attached to a ship and we got together an event for our office or division to enjoy, we all attended. We all made an effort to give part of our day to be with each other. It was a chance to learn about each other without all the military "clutter." I think you can learn a lot about a person by how he or she competes and enjoys time outside the office. Our goal at these events was not to win at all costs or save lives. It was to learn. We didn't have to become great friends to become a great team. Last week, we had the chance here to get out to the new Alpine Tower at Barbers Point. Unfortunately, the great majority of my office team didn't take the chance to join me and experience it. Steve Goodwin has set up a grand and glorious looking rock wall and tower climb with an array of actual team-building scenarios.

The whole concept behind the tower is not to build muscles in your body. It is meant to build muscles in your team so you are all stronger as a unit. A stronger unit is a more effective unit. The events are not meant to hurt or humiliate anyone who cannot complete them. Rather, the idea is to do as much as you can and have fun doing it. If you're at all interested in building your team or if you're just curious about what an Alpine Tower is, head out to Barbers Point Saturday morning and check it out. They're having an open house from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. there. I hope shore and shipboard teams take advantage of the opportunity to build their strength at the tower. If not there, then do it somewhere. Teamwork takes work to develop, hence the name, but the rewards are well worth the effort. Bottom line? Get off of your chairs. Get out of the office and learn to work as a team.

Commentary

## Fireside Chat

Navy Region Federal Fire Dept.

### Electrical appliances: Handle with care



U.S. Navy photo by JO1 Daniel J. Calderón  
 Individuals should be aware of any frayed or damaged electrical cords before plugging them in for use.

Federal Fire Department of Hawaii has an advisory to its many friends and neighbors. Many of the fires and injuries we have been responding to were caused by the misuse and abuse of electrical appliances. Most of us would agree that life would be hard and laborious if not for the help of our various types of electrical appliances and devices. When used correctly and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, our electrical appliances and devices could help us through our busy day. But when these same appliances are misused and/or abused, they could turn around and bite with an electrical arc/spark that could go through cloth, metal and flesh like a hot knife through butter. To avoid these types of accidents and injuries, the Federal Fire Department recommends the following safety tips:

- If your electric appliance or device shows signs of malfunction, that's a sign for you to have it fixed, repaired or replaced .... but stop using it .... or you'll run into some serious and dangerous problems.
- Unplug your electric appliance or device when not in use. When an appliance is plugged in, there's power to the on/off switch. If the on/off switch malfunctions there could be a fire, electric shock or worse. If the appliance is unplugged, then you're good to go.
- Use only UL (Underwriters Laboratory) or FM (Factory Mutual) electrical appliances and devices. With the UL or FM label on your appliance, you'll know that your appliance has been tested for safety.
- Read and follow the manufacturer's instructions that come with your appliance.
- Do not overload the electrical outlet by plugging in too many appliances and/or devices into it.

For more information, call the Federal Fire department's prevention Division at 474-7783 or 474-7785.

## Sailors, civilians enjoy chow time -- 1944 style



U.S. Navy Photo  
 Sailors and civilians receive lunch at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard's coffee shop 2 in this June 1944 image. At that time, the grill in the shop would provide hot meals, sandwiches and between-meal snacks for Sailors assigned to Pearl Harbor.

Commentary

## Ohana Line

**I enlisted in the Navy later than most. I have recently become interested in becoming an officer. Is there an age limit?**  
 By law, the maximum age for a commission is age 35. This is because a military officer must be able to have 20 years of service, to be retirement eligible by the maximum retirement age of 55. There are some exceptions: Military medical officers can be commissioned up to the age of 47 (they also don't have to retire by age 55). Those with prior service can sometimes receive a waiver as long as they can retire with 20 years of military service by age 55. **I've got family coming for a visit this summer. How do I get tickets to the USS Arizona Memorial and Visitor Center and other military-type attractions in the Pearl Harbor area?**  
 The USS Arizona Memorial and Visitor Center is operated by the National Park Service. As a result of current world events, new security measures are being enforced and the public is asked to cooperate. The USS Arizona Memorial's operating hours remain the same. The visitor center is open daily, including weekends, 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The first tour is at 8:00 a.m. and the last tour is at 3:00 p.m. The last tour lasts approximately 75 minutes and includes a 23-minute movie and boat ride to the Memorial. Tours may be delayed due to security precautions. For more information, call (808)422-2771 or visit their website <http://www.nps.gov/usar/index.htm>. The USS Missouri Memorial is operated by the Missouri

Memorial Association. For tour information call, (808) 423-2263 or visit their website <http://www.usmissouri.com/>. The USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park is operated by the Pacific Fleet Submarine Memorial Association. For tour information, call (808) 423-1341, or visit their website <http://www.bowfin.org/>. **I'm worried about hurricanes and other such disasters in this part of the world. What can I do to get ready for a hurricane?**  
 Be informed. Be prepared to expect the unexpected. Do not wait for instructions to take obviously necessary actions. Keep calm. Take time to think. Develop a family emergency plan. Usually these will be actions you have planned in advance, or that you take after hearing television or radio messages over the Emergency Broadcast System. Know the warning signals and where the shelters are located. Keep an emergency supply kit for home use or to take to a shelter. Stock non-perishable food items for at least a 5-day emergency food supply for the entire household. Don't forget pets. Pets cannot be taken to emergency shelters. More information is also available at the following sites: Pacific Disaster Center (PDC) - <http://www.pdc.org> Hawaii State Civil Defense - <http://www.scd.state.hi.us/> Naval Pacific Meteorology and Oceanography Center (NAVPACMETOCEN) - <http://www.npmoc.navy.mil> National Weather Service - <http://www.Nws.noaa.gov/> Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) - <http://www.fema.gov>.

## Hawai'i Sailors 'talk story'

### Seaman Lars Grauberger

Respect, honor, and discipline are evident in Lars Grauberger's life. Being in the Navy has strengthened these qualities. Grauberger, 21, studied martial arts as a child. Grauberger, originally from Independence, Mo, became fascinated with martial arts in elementary school. He discovered not only the physical benefits of the sport, but also the mental. "Martial arts is good for teaching children," said Grauberger. "It teaches them integrity, confidence and how to focus on something and strive for it." Grauberger has taken classes including tae kwon do, jujitsu, judo, and karate. "I quickly became a good kicker, and came up with my own combinations," he said. "I did a lot of sparring with my friends and participated in a couple tournaments." His passion and talent for

martial arts led him to volunteer for three years as an assistant instructor at Young Olympians Karate back home in Independence. He also plans to start his own martial arts academy, The Way of the Open Mind, after completing his time in the Navy. "I want to teach a mixture of martial arts," explained Grauberger. "You have to keep an open mind." In high school, Grauberger was a member of the Rifle Club in Junior ROTC and joined the military after a semester in college, following in the footsteps of his grandfather and uncle. Working as a striker aboard the U.S.S. Tucson, Grauberger is currently taking tactical training classes and has a strong interest in weaponry. Traveling and meeting people are two of Grauberger's favorite aspects of the Navy. He also appreciates the life lessons that

### Vital statistics

Name: Lars Grauberger  
 Hometown: Independence, MO.  
 Duty station: USS Tucson (SSN 770)  
 Job: Undesignated Striker  
 Favorite part of the job: Learning new things and doing the job well



Photo by Kamie Allmon  
 SN Lars Grauberger practices a Karate kick at the dojo where he works out.

come from being in the service. "The military teaches us how to handle stress and complete our jobs properly. They will not let you fail. It's the same with martial arts. Martial arts teaches you how to succeed." Grauberger continues to practice martial arts, and is considering teaching self-defense classes while he's stationed here at Pearl Harbor. "I believe it's important for people to have confidence in themselves, and learning self-defense gives them that confidence."

## Hawai'i Navy News

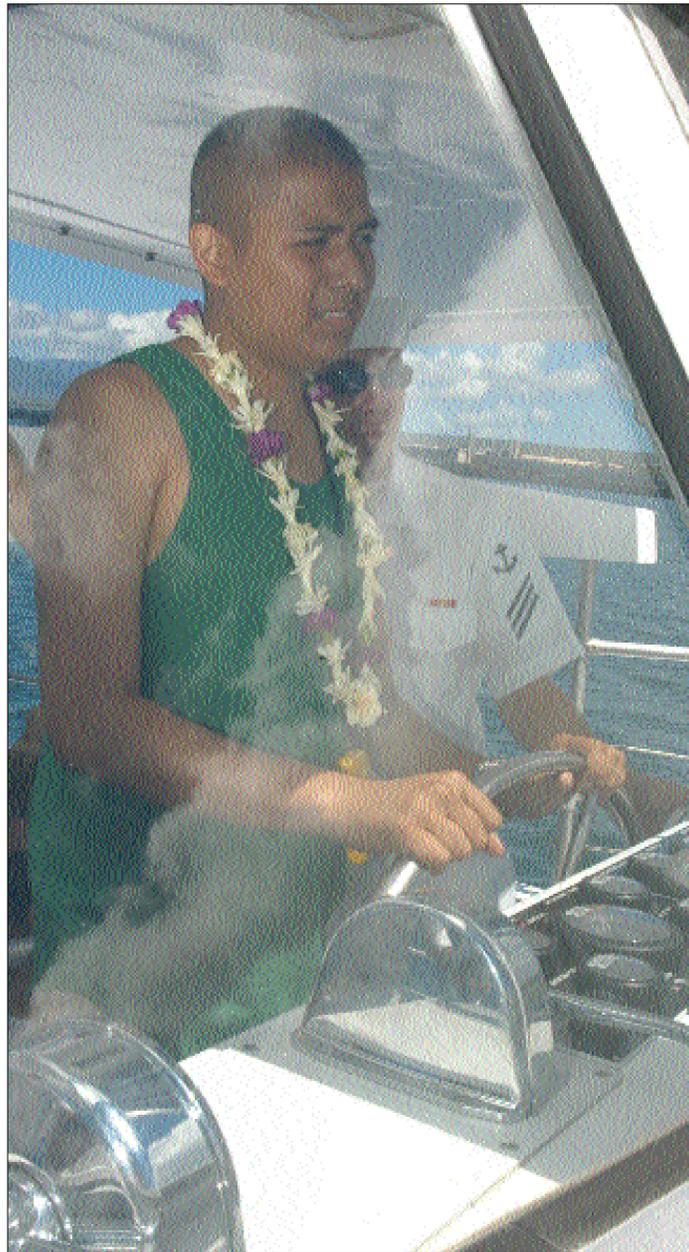
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# Texas teen's wish comes true at Pearl Harbor



Sergio Garcia Jr. takes a turn at driving a white boat Tuesday from the USS Arizona Memorial back to the Memorial's visitor's center with assistance from SN Chris Martin. Garcia, a 17-year-old native of Dallas, Texas has been diagnosed with leukemia, a life-threatening disease, and was granted the chance to visit Pearl Harbor by the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

Story and photos by  
JO1 Daniel J. Calderón  
News Editor

Sergio Garcia Jr. had a dream. He wanted to see Hawai'i and Pearl Harbor. Tuesday, the Navy helped make that dream come true.

Garcia, a 17-year-old Dallas, Texas native, has leukemia. His wish was to visit Hawai'i and see Pearl Harbor's historic sites.

"I'd been studying about World War II, Pearl Harbor and F.D.R.," said Garcia. "I'd also been studying about the ocean and I'd never even been to the [Gulf] coast."

Garcia's younger sister, Emma, knew of the Make-a-Wish Foundation. A friend's sister had leukemia and Emma, who is 14 years old, was able to get the paperwork needed for her brother to make his own wish come true. She spoke with Juanita Guerrero, a Make-a-Wish volunteer in their area.

"I thought it would be really cool if my brother got one wish," she said. "I wanted him to have this because I love him."

"We grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength, and joy," according to the Make-A-Wish Foundation's website. "The Foundation's mission reflects the life-changing impact that a Make-A-Wish experience has on children, families, referral sources, donors, sponsors, and entire communities."

During his time here, Sergio visited the USS Arizona Memorial. He viewed the movie at the visitor's center before going out and seeing the Memorial itself.

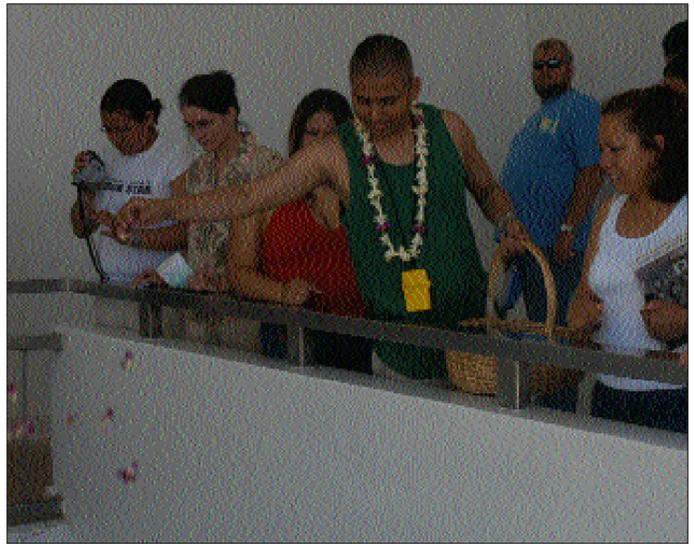
Once there, a park ranger gave him the chance to throw flowers into the memorial well. He was even able to raise a flag on the Memorial.

"I felt a great deal of respect as I was at the well on the Memorial," Sergio said. "I didn't know they were going to let me throw flowers and raise the flag. It made me feel very special."

On the trip back from the Memorial to the visitor's center, the Arizona Detachment personnel who drove the boat let Sergio take a turn at the wheel.

"He did pretty well," said Seaman Chris Martin of the Arizona Detachment. "I was just up there showing him the controls. We were glad we could help him out."

"I was scared driving the boat," Sergio admitted. "I'm not that good a driver on land."



Sergio Garcia Jr. (in green) drops flowers into the ceremonial well at the USS Arizona Memorial Tuesday while his mother Francesca (right) looks on. Visiting the Memorial was part of the 17-year-old Texas native's wish. He has been diagnosed with leukemia and was granted the chance to visit Pearl Harbor by the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

He then had lunch at the Silver Dolphin Bistro. Personnel there reserved the VIP room for Sergio and his family. The young high school graduate brought his mother, Francesca, father, Sergio Sr., two sisters, Erika and Emma, and his girlfriend, Sylvia Reyes, with him on this "chance of a lifetime."

Once lunch was over, the family visited Ford Island. There, Sergio learned about the USS Utah at the memorial, stopped at the Oklahoma's mast that was still in the water and viewed the bullet holes still on the former seaplane landing across from Naval Shipyard.

"I loved it," he said at the end of the day. "I didn't know you were going to take me to all those places, like the Utah and seeing the Oklahoma. I learned a lot today. The trip was well worth it."

Sergio was diagnosed with leukemia in August 2003. Since then, he has been undergoing treatments.

"I've landed in the hospital twice already," he said. "I was feeling really weak. There were days I would wake up and I wouldn't want to move at all, but my girlfriend was always encouraging me. The thing that's kept me going through all of this is my girlfriend."

Sergio's father said the illness has served the family in an unexpected

way.

"Before he got sick, the family was becoming a little separated," admitted the elder Garcia. "Then, we all came together and became stronger as a family. I'm happy that we're all able to share this experience with Sergio."

"My son is very strong," said Francesca. "When [he was diagnosed], he helped us all come closer to God."

The family has enjoyed their time in Hawai'i and appreciates all the efforts of the Navy and of the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

"I think this is the day we've all learned the most about the island," said Sergio's older sister, Erika. "This whole experience was fun and I'm glad we all had the chance to enjoy it together."

"I thank God the day went well," said Sergio Sr. "It's the best day we've had on our trip."

Francesca hopes more children who have similar illnesses to Sergio's have the opportunity to have their wishes come true.

"I thank Make-a-Wish for making all this happen," she said. "I want to see them grow and grow so that that more kids who are sick can be helped."

For more information on the Make-a-Wish Foundation, visit their website at <http://www.wish.org/>.

# Naval Medical Clinic, Pearl Harbor changes command

**Bruce Omura**  
NMCLPH Public Affairs Specialist

On May 28, Naval Medical Clinic, Pearl Harbor held its change of command ceremony at the Ford Island Banyan tree park, at which Capt. Joseph L. Moore relinquished his command to Capt. Charles O. Barker.

"I am ready to be relieved."  
"I relieve you, sir."  
"I stand relieved."

And with these three phrases, Naval Medical Clinic, Pearl Harbor said goodbye to one of its most successful commanding officers and welcomed aboard its newest.

On a clear, bright Hawaiian day with gently blowing trade winds, more than 300 guests and visitors attended the change of command and were serenaded by the ceremonial unit, United States Pacific Fleet Band.

The official party consisted of the guest speaker, Rear Adm. Barry McCullough, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, Moore and Barker. Capt. Patricia J. Goodin, executive officer, Naval Medical Clinic, Pearl Harbor, was the master of ceremonies.

In his remarks as guest speaker, McCullough praised Moore for his many accomplishments as commanding officer.

Moore's accomplishments enabled the command to become a model healthcare system for the Navy that surpassed the healthcare standards of the local community, culminated in an outstanding Joint Commission on Accreditation for Healthcare Organizations Survey and Medical Inspector General inspection, and resulted in savings to the Navy of over \$1.4 million.

After concluding his remarks, McCullough presented Moore the Legion of Merit (gold star in lieu of second award) for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service as Commanding Officer, Naval Medical Clinic, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, from August 2001 to May 2004.

Under Moore's leadership, Naval Medical Clinic, Pearl Harbor developed the Navy's first pier side Sports Medicine and Reconditioning Team (SMART) Center at Pearl



U.S. Navy photo by J01 Daniel J. Calderon  
Capt. Joseph Moore reads his orders prior to turning command of Naval Medical Clinic, Pearl Harbor over to Capt. Charles Barker at a change of command ceremony held May 28 on Ford Island. Moore departs Pearl Harbor to report to San Diego as force surgeon, Commander Naval Surface Force Pacific, Coronado.

Harbor and a second SMART Center at Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH), the first Wellness Van in the Navy and Wellness Centers in Hawaii to take health promotion to the waterfront and provide training on issues concerning healthier lifestyles in the branch medical clinics and annexes.

Moore also established the first-of-its-kind-in-the-Navy, Welcoming Center to take a proactive approach by providing comprehensive, age-appropriate healthcare screening and consultations with credentialed providers for all newly arriving active-duty and family members, and stress free zones for staff members at each clinic.

The command received a Meritorious Unit Citation, the Pipeline Movers award in 2001 and 2002 for efficiency in the administration of medical boards

Medical was also awarded the Chief of Naval Operation's Shore Safety Award (small non-industrial CONUS category) for fiscal year 2003 and the prestigious Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Award For Achievement in Safety Ashore - FY2003 (small non-industrial CONUS), and received the Gold Star Award in 2001, 2002, 2003 from the Navy Environmental Health Center.

For its initiatives in health promotion, the command received

Navy Region Hawaii's Community Service Award for 2002.

Moore's next duty assignment will be as force surgeon, Commander Naval Surface Force Pacific, Coronado.

"It's been a short three years, but three of the best years in memory," said Capt. Moore. "I can't begin to tell you what a privilege and honor it has been to be here and serve on these hallowed grounds that is so rich in naval history. I wish I could thank everyone who has contributed to the command during my tenure here, but there is simply not enough time. I wish you all the best in the coming years."

Barker reports from his last com-

mand as the executive officer, Naval Hospital, Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico. Barker practiced solo family medicine from 1975 to 1990.

He received American Board of Family Practice certification in 1976 and became a fellow in the American Academy of Family Practice (AAFP) in 1977.

Barker was active in the Georgia Academy of Family Practice and served as state affiliate secretary-treasurer and vice president. He is currently an active member of the AAFP and the Uniform Services Chapter of the AAFP. During this period, he was also an active member of the Georgia affiliate, American Diabetes Association, serving as state president from 1984-1986.

Barker was a designated FAA aviation medical examiner. He is a private pilot with single engine, commercial and instrument ratings, and has accumulated over 500 hours in the Bellanca Super Viking and Grumman Tiger.

Barker resumed active reserve status in 1988 and was recalled to active duty Dec. 7, 1990, serving with HMM-266 during Desert Shield/Storm.

Following Desert Storm, Barker reported to Naval Safety Center as flight surgeon analyst in 1991. He was selected as resident in aerospace medicine in 1993 and received a masters of public health degree at Johns Hopkins University in 1994.

He received board certification from the American Board of Preventive Medicine in May 1996 and in July 1996 reported to USS Enterprise (CVN-65) as senior medical officer where he served until 1998.

He reported as assistant director, naval aerospace medicine, BUMED-23 in July 1998 and was director from October 1999 to July 2001.

He is a fellow, aerospace medicine association and a diplomat, American College of Healthcare Executives. Most recently, Barker served as executive officer of U.S. Naval Hospital Roosevelt Roads Puerto Rico until its decommissioning in March 2004.

Barker has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, gold star in lieu of third award, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and has been awarded multiple other service medals and ribbons.



U.S. Navy Photo by ISI Francisco Fierros  
(from left to right) USS Russell (DDG 59) Idol judges Lt. j.g. Neil Wharton, Lt. Deborah Packard and Lt. Cmdr Christopher Sweeney, Russell's executive officer, rate one of the singers at Russell's Idol competition.

## Russell Idol...who will be next?

**USS Russell**  
Public Affairs

While out to sea, Navy warships observe "holiday routine" on Sundays.

Sailors who are not on watch are free to enjoy their day however they see fit. Onboard USS Russell (DDG 59), a recent Sunday afternoon was anything but quiet.

Sailors enjoyed an afternoon of firing small arms at clay disks during a skeet shoot, enjoying a steel beach barbecue picnic on the flight deck, and a karaoke competition to see who would be the next "Russell Idol."

"Having almost the whole crew gather to watch the afternoon's competition was a great end to a relaxing Sunday," said Gunner's Mate 1st Class (SW) Matthew Wright. "I can't remember when I laughed so hard while underway!"

Many Sailors competed for the top scores during the preliminary round and serenaded the crew as

they enjoyed their hot dogs and hamburgers, but once the votes had been tallied, there were five perfect scores. Personnelman Seaman Joseph Brown, Sonar Technician-Surface 3rd Class Erhrolejhan Navarro, Storekeeper 2nd Class Salvador Martinez, Lt. j.g. Lucas Berger and "The Ladies of Russell" - Ensign Laura Dutkiewicz, Ensign Katie Hulse, Lt. j.g. Kerri Chasey, Lt. j.g. Jennifer Delaney, and Lt. j.g. Julia Weber - all scored a perfect 30 from judges, "Randy, Paula and, of course, Simon."

At twilight, Russell broadcast the final round to USS McCampbell (DDG 85) by projecting live video onto the SPY radar array for the crew of McCampbell to enjoy while steaming alongside.

While the competition was stiff, there could only be one Russell Idol. The judges onboard Russell and McCampbell said Brown "blew them away" with his rendition of "Billy Jean" by Michael Jackson. So who will be the next Russell Idol? We'll just have to wait to find out!



U.S. Navy photo by ISI Francisco Fierros  
PNSN Joseph Brown takes his turn at singing "Billie Jean" during a singing competition aboard USS Russell (DDG 59) while the ship is deployed.

## Shipyard project team wins big aboard USS Louisville

Shipyard crew 'stepped up to the plate' during sub's availability

**Marshall Fukuki**  
Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard  
Public Affairs

Members of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard's USS Louisville (SSN 724) project team "stepped up to the plate and hit out-of-the-park home-runs" in reducing overtime and increasing work accomplished.

The weapons of choice for the shipyard's "Louisville Sluggers" were theory of constraints (TOC) and critical chain project management (CCPM) concepts.

All naval shipyards are applying these initiatives to improve productivity and efficiency as part of the Naval Sea System Command's Shipyard Transformation Plan. In early 2002, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard became the pilot yard for TOC/CCPM and initially tested the system at Fleet Maintenance Availability Project - Submarines (FMB).

It was then extended to Chief of Naval Operations availabilities. Louisville was the shipyard's first submarine selected restricted availability to incorporate these concepts.

That wasn't the only reason for the Louisville project making it into the record books.

The availability had one of the largest overall work packages of 55,000 man-days and lowest overtime rates of 21 percent among submarine SRAs done in recent years at Pearl Harbor.

The project team's challenge included higher than normal maintenance and intensive modernization requirements. A huge amount of new work was added during the availability.

The start of the SRA was delayed because Louisville

was deployed for over eight months, which contributed to higher maintenance requirements upon her return.

In addition, a very large modernization package was done during the SRA. In spite of all this work, the project finished on time Jan. 10 according to the revised schedule.

Cmdr. Michael Jabaley Jr., commanding officer of the submarine, called the SRA "an unqualified success."

According to Jabaley, the project team ... returned Louisville to the fleet in fine condition, with an overwhelming advance in combat effectiveness.

"I appreciate the work done and thank the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard for its outstanding effort," said Jabaley. Lt. Cmdr. David Hunt, project superintendent, said, "We had the right people to make the project successful."

The big difference between Louisville and other SRAs was the implementation of TOC/CCPM, he observed. "It's a behavioral change in the way you manage your performance. It's very hard to do when not everyone is ... working to the same system," said Hunt.

Hunt scheduled nearly 100 key people associated with the project to receive anywhere from half a day to two weeks of training on the concepts.

"It was something new to accept," said deputy project superintendent Clem Lopez, "but, as we went through the training and pre-planning phase, then actually executing our work using the Concerto program, we began to understand the tools and their benefits."

One of these resources was the Concerto program. Compared to other scheduling

software, "it was, by far, the best and easiest to use," said Hunt. "It gave us a clear-cut task priority list."

Herbert Farm assistant project superintendent said, "It was a plus-up in managing priorities."

One of Concerto's features is a color code that flags jobs slipping in schedule. "It's structured to ID the jobs you should be working on," he said. "We saw the effectiveness of that on Louisville."

Lopez noted, "It's not perfect, but has a lot of potential. Concerto tells you straight-forward the job tasking that needs management's attention. With PSS [project scheduling and sequencing, the previous scheduling program], you would analyze various data points to identify a problem area."

TOC/CCPM employs a strategy of controlled release of work, said Hunt. Instead of opening up as many jobs as possible, "you only open those you can actually work to completion."

For example, instead of opening 20 jobs, you might only open two, he explained. However, by doing it that way, in the end all 20 are finished faster.

"There's less multi-tasking for the workers, less pulling them away from job to job," Hunt said.

He also observed a drastic decrease in discrepancy reports filed by mechanics. The average number of outstanding deficiency logs (DLs) on an SRA is 25 to 30 daily, but Louisville was below 10 daily.

"I had a highly-motivated team dedicated to helping the Shipyard implement Theory of constraints and critical chain project management ... and giving the new system a fair shot," Hunt said. "At the end, we all saw the power of the new tool."

For more information on Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, official Website at <http://www.phnsy.navy.mil>.

# The Battle of Midway

## One man attempts to promote the battle's historic significance

JO1(SW) Alyssa Batarla  
U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

When Alan Lloyd was 12, he heard rumbling outside his home in Makiki Heights, looked out his bedroom window and saw black anti-aircraft rounds shooting into the sky. Thinking it was the military practicing maneuvers, he and his father went outside to sit on their patio and watch. It was only when they noticed how close the maneuvers were getting to the waterfront that his father switched on the radio and heard the announcer broadcast the news: they had been watching the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

In the days after the attack, the American community was outraged, and many historians and scholars claim it was the outcry to punish the Japanese for the attack that made the Battle of Midway one of the great turning points in, not only the Pacific war during World War II, but also world history.

In James Schlesinger's 2003 article about the Battle of Midway, "Underappreciated Victory," Schlesinger states that President Franklin D. Roosevelt recognized the Third Reich as the greater menace than the Japanese. "Yet, had it not been for Midway, President Roosevelt could not have persevered with a Europe-first policy. Public opinion would not have allowed it."

After Pearl Harbor, the Japanese were gathering and strengthening their fleet and advancing eastward in the Pa-

cific toward Midway, and Schlesinger claims, "Additional Japanese victories would have made it politically impossible for President Roosevelt to continue to pursue the grand strategy of Europe-first."

While U.S. naval forces were significantly damaged by an attack six months prior to the Japanese armada, the inferior U.S. forces were triumphant through skill, courage, great intelligence, careful risk-taking by leadership and good luck.

When Lloyd read Schlesinger's article, he took the article's final words to heart: "Now Hear This! It is time to go forth and proselytize and underscore the world-historic role of Midway. The battle and its veterans deserve no less."

"Yes, sir!" he said, while saluting, "and that's exactly what has motivated me."

That motivation led him to Adm. Arthur W. Radford High School in Honolulu Thursday and Friday to talk to approximately 400 freshmen, sophomores and juniors about the historic Battle of Midway in honor of the battle's 62nd anniversary June 4 - 7.

To start off each of his speeches, Lloyd quoted Schlesinger's article, "For without Midway, there would've been no D-Day on 6 June 1944, and with all that that implies about the condition of postwar Europe," he read before introducing his comments, "And I add, if we had not won at Midway, President Truman would have probably had to authorize the use of half

a dozen atomic bombs to end WWII instead of just two at Hiroshima and Nagasaki."

He caught the attention of, and educated, four groups throughout the two-day period in the high school's library, with nothing other than his slide show illuminated behind him. Without notes, he told the students historical background to the battle, strategies, names, dates, anecdotes, and details on the ships and aircraft involved. He told the students a battle's worth of information, solely from memory. And his memory, two weeks shy of his 75th birthday, is sharp.

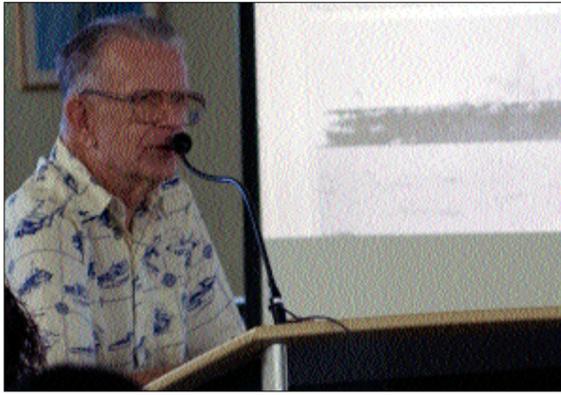
A retired engineer, Lloyd now spends his time as a historian for the USS Missouri Memorial Association as well as a public speaker whose topics range from history and the Navy to travel and ecological conservation.

His history with the Navy travels beyond watching the attack on Pearl Harbor and working for the USS Missouri Memorial Association.

Lloyd's first memory, around 1935, was of the Navy - USS Saratoga and USS Lexington anchored off Waikiki.

He can recall with detail his family meeting the skipper and gunnery officer from USS Ward, the destroyer that fired the first American shots in World War II, sinking a two-man Japanese sub. He later sat in the gun director's seat of the gun that fired that shot.

He remembers the British captain and sub lieutenant his family had over for a British



U.S. Navy Photo by JO1(SW) Alyssa Batarla  
Allan Lloyd talks to a group of high school students at Radford High School about the Battle of Midway. A retired engineer, Lloyd now spends his time as a historian for the USS Missouri Memorial Association as well as being a public speaker whose topics range from history and the Navy to travel and ecological conservation.

roast beef dinner when HMS Illustrious pulled into Pearl Harbor. He has two carrier launches and landings under his belt. He has taken the helm on a frigate and driven a submarine. He watched live fire on the Pacific Missile Range Facility and rode two destroyers from Honolulu to San Diego.

He claims he is not a collector with one exception: "When I'm underway at sea, I always go to the ship's store and buy the ship's ball cap. I've got about 35 baseball caps." And he is also a 45-year member of the Navy League.

Kept out of the Navy due to vision problems, Lloyd thought if he couldn't join, he would certainly support the Navy. "I never had the privilege to serve," said Lloyd, national director emeritus for the Navy League, "and that's why I appreciate people who joined. My personal claim to fame was that I got to watch the attack on Pearl Harbor, and I've been very interest-

Lloyd said speaking to a group of high school students is no more challenging than any other group he has spoken to.

"I treat them like adults," Lloyd said. "I treat them like I would want to be treated as a high school student."

The importance is, though, that he's speaking to them and telling them about the history surrounding the Battle of Midway. "Those who will not learn from history are condemned to repeat it," Lloyd said, quoting the axiom. "The United States is unique, and if we don't know what our country is all about and how it got here, we won't be good Americans. The way I look at it, you got to understand where your country is coming from."

That is why Lloyd is passionate about tackling Schlesinger's challenge of spreading the word about the importance of the Battle of Midway to anyone or any group who would like to hear more about the "underappreciated victory."

"He's experienced everything," said Sonar Technician (Surface) 2nd Class(SW) Jeffrey Kaltenbaugh, a Navy Region Hawaii Sailor who was in attendance for one of Lloyd's speeches at Radford. "He hasn't just read about history or just seen it on TV. He's actually lived through it and experienced it, and he's very knowledgeable about what happened, and it's a lot more interesting coming from him."

"We learn from history," Radford social studies teacher Jennifer Nakanashi, said. "It is important to learn from our successes and our failures throughout history, and this speech especially was on a successful battle in U.S. history that was not recognized the way that it should be."

## Golden: VP-9 at 'highest level of combat readiness'

Continued from A-1

spond to these threats with the Stand-off Land Attack Missile (SLAM), designed for land and sea targets.

During the past 12-month inter-deployment readiness cycle (IDRC), aircrew and maintenance personnel prepared for deployment with extensive training exercises, thorough inspections, and more than 3,500 flight hours.

Senior Chief Aviation Structural Mechanic (AW) Mark Seganos, one of the senior supervisors of the "Golden Eagle" maintenance team, implemented a plan that allowed for all aircraft to be ready to deploy.

"Our maintainers spent seven days a week preparing 13 separate aircraft during the 12 month turn-around cycle, and did it safely," Seganos said.

As part of their rigorous training, VP-9 aircrews specifically participated



U.S. Navy photo by JO1 Daniel J. Calderon  
Lt. j.g. Brian Beatty, a pilot for Patrol Squadron 9 based out of Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay, checks his maps as part of a pre-flight check.

in the Joint Fleet Exercise with the John C. Stennis Carrier Strike Group, and participated in Exercise Lightning Thrust Warrior with the Army's 25th Infantry Division.

Finally, the squadron successfully tested the evolutionary SLAM-ER (expanded response) missile April 6, be-

coming the first fleet P-3 squadron to launch the new missile.

In addition to the squadron preparing for deployment, families and loved ones were assisted with pre-deployment seminars detailing supportive services.

Each family received a guidebook with important references and phone numbers specific to the current deployment.

Commanding officer of the "Golden Eagles," Cmdr. Rodney M. Urbano, said, "I am extremely proud of all our accomplishments during the IDRC. I am confident that we have achieved the highest level of combat readiness to fulfill every mission in the Fifth and Seventh Fleets areas of responsibility."

To follow the "Golden Eagles" throughout their deployment, visit their official website at <http://www.navy.mil/homepages/vp9>.



U.S. Navy Photo by JO1 Daniel J. Calderon

Members of the VP-9 crew load their bags at the Hickam AFB terminal Wednesday night. More than 400 Sailors flew out of Hickam to begin their deployment to the Fifth Fleet area of responsibility.

# Hawai'i Navy News Sports

## Sailors volunteer at Special Olympics

Memorial Day weekend event gives 18 Sailors chance to interact with local community, special athletes

JOSN Ryan C. McGinley  
Staff Writer

Sailors from Afloat Planning System, Pacific and Cruise Missile Support Activity volunteered at the Hawai'i Special Olympics powerlifting competition Sunday at the University of Hawai'i.

Eighteen Sailors took time out of their Memorial Day weekend to help spot, support and run the powerlifting competition for gifted Hawaiians from many of the islands.

"I have a family member who is specially gifted so in memory of her I am helping out here," said Information Systems Technician 1st Class (SW) Carl Turner, APSPAC volunteer. "It just makes you feel so good to help the other people."

Sailors helped the athletes by spotting the weights while they lifted, calculating paperwork and setting up the events. While the events are competitions, one Sailor said the best part was the spirit of the athletes.

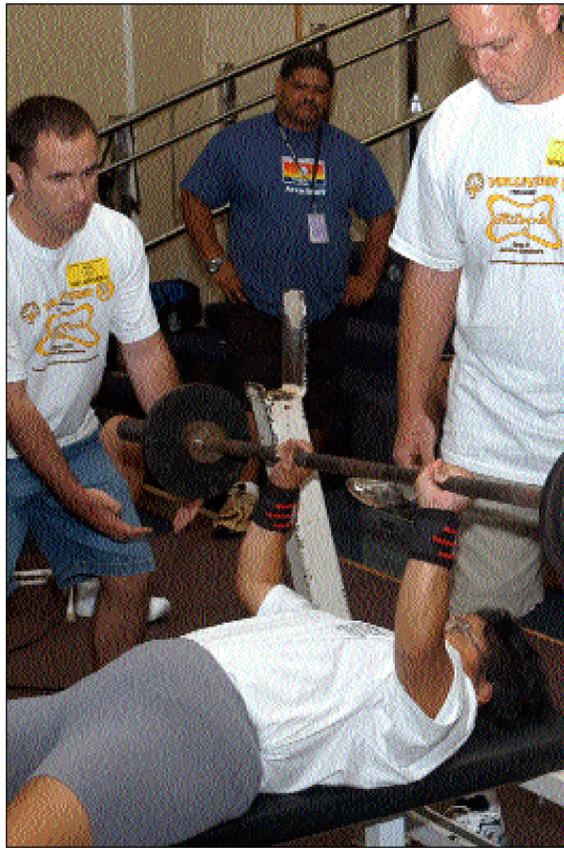
"It's nice to watch the competition [and] no one's going against each other," said Lt. Dan Truesdell, CMSA volunteer. "The athletes that are competing against each other are rooting for each other."

Although the work was important to the competition, most of the Sailors who volunteered found the communication between themselves and the gifted athletes to be the most important part.

"The best time is in between the events when you can interact with them, and I will definitely recommend it to anybody," said Truesdell.



U.S. Navy Photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGinley  
IT1 (SW) Carl Turner helps to spot an athlete at the Hawai'i Special Olympics at the University of Hawai'i Sunday.



U.S. Navy Photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGinley  
FC1 (SW) Chris Glaser and FCC (SW/AW) Darren Barton, APSPAC volunteers, help to spot an athlete at the Hawai'i Summer Games at the University of Hawai'i. Eighteen APSPAC and CMSA volunteers helped spot, score and set up events at the powerlifting competition.

Sailors have been volunteering at the event for many years, working with the community to help things run smoothly.

"I think it's important to

show the community what the military does," said Winston Ho, powerlifting director for Special Olympics. "The military is part of the ohana, part of the community."

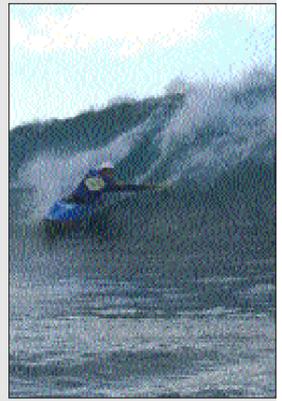
## Surf Aloha: Surf kayak contest coming up

Special to Hawai'i Navy News

Spending time on the water in your kayak in search of the perfect conditions? Been looking for an opportunity to showcase your fledgling or expert surf paddling skills for your friends? Check out the Surf Aloha Kayak Surfing Competition scheduled for June 12-13 at White Plains Beach, Kalaeloa (formerly NAS Barber's Point). The island's only annual surf paddling event, co-sponsored by Navy Region Hawaii MWR and Hui Wa'a Kaukahi Kayak Club, will have classes for every type of surf kayak - "Sit on Top" recreational kayaks, closed deck kayaks, wave-skis and even double kayaks.

Whether you are a novice or "big wave" expert doesn't matter. There will be classes for novices and experts, male and female, military and civilian, and age groups from Kids (ages 11 to 17) to Master's (age 50 plus). Even if you've never competed before, come on out, try out your skills, meet some fellow surf kayakers, learn and enjoy the fun. Bring a friend to compete against and bring your camera to document the carnage. Trophies will be awarded for the top three finishers in each category and drawings will be held for multiple prizes, including two kayaks, roof racks, paddles and other gear. Just for competing, you get two chances to win a kayak and a T-shirt.

While you are having "fun in the sun," you can be comfortable knowing that any profit from your participation will go to a great cause. Profits will be donated to Hui Wa'a Kaukahi, a non-profit kayak club working toward ocean education, safety,



U.S. Navy photo  
The upcoming surf kayaking competition will give participants a new kind of chance to ride Hawai'i waves.

awareness and the preservation of Hawai'i's ocean environment.

For entry forms and information, call Go Bananas Kayaks (808-737-9514), visit a Go Bananas store (locations at 799 Kapaehulu in Honolulu or 98390 Kam Highway in Aiea next to Dixie Grill), visit the website at [www.gobanaskayaks.com](http://www.gobanaskayaks.com), or visit the outdoor adventure center located at Naval Station Pearl Harbor in the Bloch Arena complex. Late entries are still available by calling Go Bananas. If spaces are still open, interested participants may be able to register at the beach on the day of the event. Volunteers to help make the event happen are needed too. For information, call 808-677-3481.

Don't delay, register today and come on out to join in the sun, fun and paddle-surfing at White Plains Beach on 12 and 13 June.



U.S. Navy Photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGinley  
A Special Olympics athlete poses for a photo after placing first in his weight class at the Hawai'i Special Olympics.



U.S. Navy Photo by JOC Melinda Larson

Cmdr. William Kearns III, Commanding Officer, guided missile destroyer USS Russell (DDG 59), communicates with his combat information center, giving the order of release during a weapons shoot, as liaison officers from the navies of Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines stand behind him.

## Multi-national Southeast Asia anti-terrorism exercise concludes

JOC Melinda Larson

Destroyer Squadron One Public Affairs

Liaison officers from the navies of several Southeast Asia nations embarked with the U.S. Navy during an at-sea anti-terrorism exercise in the Philippine and South China Seas May 24-29.

Southeast Asia Cooperation Against Terrorism (SEACAT), a scenario-driven exercise that involved the tracking and boarding of simulated rogue merchant ships, gave the participants an opportunity to witness and share ship tracking and boarding techniques of mutual benefit. Each navy's contribution to the exercise scenario was bilateral in nature with the U.S. Navy and was based on each navy's capabilities and expertise.

"SEACAT is a tremendous opportunity for the United States to work with regional navies to increase all nations' capabilities to ensure safe seas and freedom

of commerce," said Capt. Buzz Little, commander of Destroyer Squadron 1, who led the U.S. task group that participated in the exercise.

Little and his staff were embarked on the dock landing ship USS Fort McHenry (LSD 43). Other U.S. ships taking part in the exercise included the U.S. Coast Guard high endurance cutter USCGC Mellon (WHEC 717); the guided-missile destroyers, USS Russell (DDG 59) and USS McCampbell (DDG 85); the combat stores ship, USNS Concord (T-AFS 5); and the container and roll-on/roll-off ship, SS Maj. Stephen W. Pless (T-AK 3007).

Liaison officers from the navies of the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Brunei and Indonesia participated with the U.S. Navy, also embarked at Fort McHenry.

"It's a good idea to share our resources and work together," noted Republic of Singapore Navy Capt. Jason Lee. "SEACAT

takes our training to the next level." Lee has participated in every SEACAT since the exercise began in 2002.

Although each Navy's participation was bilateral with the U.S. Navy, members of each participating nation had an opportunity to interact on personal levels.

"This is a very good exercise of navies coming together. Apart from the exercise, we have had interaction and are building personal relationships with our counterparts from other nations in our region," said Republic of Singapore Navy Capt. Kelvin Cheung.

During the exercise, the liaison officers had an opportunity to visit several ships in the U.S. task group, and to discuss and witness various ship boarding and tracking techniques.

SEACAT, held annually, is designed to contribute to regional coordination efforts that support cooperative responses to terrorism and trans-national crimes at sea.

## Space 'A' travel rates increase

JO1 Katherine Sanchez

Naval Support Activity Naples, Italy, Public Affairs

Passengers flying on a space-available (Space "A") basis can expect to pay a little more next time they travel. The International Air Transportation Tax, or "head tax," and the Federal Inspection Fee (FIS) for Space "A" passengers were increased May 22.

The head tax is charged to passengers traveling on Patriot Express missions; special assigned air missions (SAAM) and commercial contract missions; and Space "A" passengers who arrive and depart the customs territories of the U.S. (CTUS) to and from overseas locations on these missions. The head tax was increased from \$12.08 to \$13.70.

FIS applies to Space "A" passengers who arrive in the CTUS from overseas locations on Patriot Express missions, and SAAM commercial contract missions are also affected. This fee increased from \$11 to \$12.

According to Robert Hurley, Navy-AMC Air Terminal manager the increase was mandated by federal law to offset the cost of providing customs and immigration services at U.S. ports of entry.

"The combined increase for the head tax and FIS is just \$1.90. Now space-available passengers will pay \$25.70. The rates are only charged to space-available passengers, so people who are PCSing [Permanent Change of Station] won't need to worry about the fees," Hurley said.

According to Hurley, DoD pol-



U.S. Navy Photo by JO1 Daniel J. Calderon  
Angela Rorie, AMC passenger service agent at Hickam AFB passenger terminal, talks to a customer and gives out flight information for Space "A" flights.

icy mandates the maximum use of space aboard all DoD aircraft and a properly planned trip using Space "A" is still an economical way to get to your destination.

"It has been a long-standing DoD policy that unused passenger space on DoD-owned and controlled aircraft be utilized to the maximum extent possible, to include space-available passengers," Hurley said. "Space-available is a great way to stretch your budget and travel to many exciting places, including the U.S. But to take advantage of Space "A", you must plan carefully and always have an alternate means of traveling. After all, that's why it's called space-available."

## USS Belleau Wood ESG deployed

Cynthia R. Smith

Fleet Public Affairs Center  
Pacific

More than 5,000 Sailors and Marines embarked with the Belleau Wood Expeditionary Strike Group have deployed to the Western Pacific and central command area of responsibility (AOR) in support of the global war on terrorism.

USS Belleau Wood (LHA 3), USS Denver (LPD 9) and USS Comstock (LSD 45) departed San Diego May 27 to meet U.S. Central Command's request for forces to support the global war on terrorism and to conduct future operations as directed. The remainder of the strike group, USS Mobile Bay (CG 53), USS Preble (DDG 88), USS Hopper (DDG 70) and the fast attack submarine USS Charlotte (SSN 766), will depart in the coming weeks.

Staci Smith of Oroville Calif., brother of Marine Lance Cpl. Sean Smith, a sniper embarked with the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), is sad to see her brother deploy, but is proud of the job he will be doing in Iraq.

"I am very proud of Sean," Smith said. "He is going to go complete his job and then come back home to us safely. He is a Marine. He will get the job done."

This deployment increases military capabilities and enhances flexibility in the region. The Belleau Wood ESG's ability to deploy a few weeks earlier than its original deployment date is an example of the flexibility of naval assets and the fleet response plan (FRP).

Commander Third Fleet certified the ESG is ready for deployment, and Special Operations Training Group, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, certified the embarked 11th MEU as special operations capable as well.

Brig. Gen. Joseph V. Medina is in command of the Belleau Wood ESG which includes: the staff of ESG Three, Amphibious Squadron Five, and surface ships Belleau Wood, Denver, Comstock, Mobile Bay, Preble, Hopper and Charlotte. Brig. Gen. Medina is also in command of the 11th MEU, including Battalion 1/4, Marine Service Support Group (MSSG) 11, and Marine Medi-

um Helicopter Squadron (HMM) 166, from Camp Pendleton and Marine Corps Air Station Miramar in Calif., respectively.

This is the first Expeditionary Strike Group to be commanded by a Marine Corps general. The Expeditionary Strike Group staff provides the planning and staff functions, which enable them to respond to a range of possible missions as directed by the regional combatant commander.

"Belleau Wood Expeditionary Strike Group supports the Department of the Navy's vision to align, organize, integrate and transform to meet the challenges that lay ahead. The ESG brings enhanced power projection, defensive protection and operational independence afforded by the freedom to maneuver on the sea," Medina said.

Jenise Angeles, of Portland Ore. is the mother of Marine Pfc. J.T. Dickinson, a mortarman (81mm and 60mm mortar rounds with tube and base plate) with the 11th MEU, explained her son is ready to do his job and that she is proud of him.

"It is going to be difficult for everyone," said Angeles, "but J.T. is glad he has the opportunity to do what he came into the Marines to do. He told me he was proud to serve his country and I am proud of him for stepping up to the challenge. I am going to miss him, but now I can look forward to welcoming him home."

Under the Navy's new operational construct, the fleet response plan (FRP), naval forces have been trained to immediately respond to a crisis or contingency with the required combat power. This "progressive readiness" was developed to tailor training to meet today's quick response requirements. The FRP provides the commander in chief persistent and massive combat power, anywhere, giving options for an immediate, credible response to crises and to support national interests.

The ESG will have a variety of missions while deployed, including humanitarian assistance and non-combatant evacuation operations, and combat operations in support of joint force commanders throughout the Western Pacific and central command AOR.

### STORY IDEAS?

Contact the HNN editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements

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